(b) Under the guidelines of the approved schemes of the Deptt. of Tourism, Govt, of India, one destination is taken up for development in each State every year. Govt, of Gujarat has been requested to indicate the order of priority for the execution of the projects.

(c) Central financial assistance is provided on the basis of the merits of the project, *inter se* priority and availability of funds.

Maintenance of Taj Mahal

1764. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Taj has lost its beauty and lustre;

(b) whether it is also a fact that tiles in the monument are cracking;

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) what steps are being taken by Government to keep the monument intact?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Archaeological Survey of India is continuously taking all necessary measures for structural conservation, chemical cleaning and preservation and environmental development of the Taj Mahal, Agra.

Central assistance for infrastructural development in Orissa

1765. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the Central assistance released to the State Government of Orissa and other States for the development of infrastructure during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) the amount earmarked for the infrastructure development in the tourism sector during the Tenth Five Year Plan; and

(c) the details of allocation made so far, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) Details of tourism projects sanctioned and amounts